

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the detailed examination evidenced by the Office Action mailed March 17, 2008 ("Office Action"). Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the new rejections of Claims 1, 3-8, 10-12, 18, 19, 25 and 26 for at least the reasons discussed below.

Claims 1, 8, 18 and 25 now stand rejected as allegedly unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,983,090 to Aoki ("Aoki") in view of U.S. Patent No. 7,272,121 to Wilkes et al ("Wilkes") and alleged admitted prior art ("APA"). Office Action, p. 2. The Office Action concedes that "Aoki does not teach responsive to receipt of the datagram at the wireless base station, configuring the wireless base station to accept data-grams addressed to the assigned port number and/or Internet address." Office Action, p. 3. The Office Action alleges that Wilkes provides the missing teaching at column 5, lines 15-20. Office Action, pp. 3 and 4.

The cited passage from column 5 of Wilkes states:

After the base station 210_1 is provided with a serial number and a starting IP address, the base station 210_1 is then plugged into a network 410_1 (S504). The base station 210_1 may then be either manually configured or automatically configured (S506). For example, a base station may be designed such that it is manually configured, automatically self-configured, or provides the installer with an option of either manually or automatically configuring the base station.

Regarding "automatic" configuration, Wilkes further states:

If the base station 210_1 is automatically configured, the base station 210_1 may transmit a Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol (DHCP) discover message and then listen for a server offer message (S508). As is known to one skilled in the art, a DHCP server 470 periodically responds to discover messages on the network 410_1 to which it is connected. New devices on the network 410_1 receive the offer message that includes an IP address assignment from the DHCP server 470. Thus, the base station 210_1 may determine that there is no DHCP server 470 on the network if it does not receive the offer message within a predetermined period of time after broadcasting a discover message and may determine that there is a DHCP server 470 if such a message is received.

If the base station 210_1 determines that there is a DHCP server 470 present (i.e., it receives a DHCP server offer message), **the base station 210_1 receives in the offer message (1) an IP address for itself 210_1, (2) an IP address for the Domain Name Server (DNS) 472, and (3) the IP address for a gateway 412_1 (S510).** That is, the DHCP server 470 provides this information to the base station 210_1.

... Referring back to step S508, if the base station 210_1 does not receive a DHCP server offer message after a predetermined period of time, it assumes that the network does not include a DHCP server (i.e., a DHCP server 3_10 is not connected to network 410_1). (S308). *The base station 210_1 may then steal an IP address by, for example, listening to the traffic on the network 410_1 and determining from this information the range of valid IP addresses (S524).* Then, the base station 210_1 may use an address within this range. *In an alternative embodiment, the base station 210_1 uses a manually installed IP address,* which may, for example, be installed by whomever plugs the base station into the network 410_1. *In yet another embodiment, the base station 210_1 uses the broadcast IP address of the network 410_1.*

Wilkes, column 5, lines 25-46 and column 6, lines 23-36 (emphasis added). None of these configuration modes appears to provide a teaching or suggestion that the "IP address for itself" is "in a destination field of a header" of a datagram received by the base station. For example, Wilkes describes receiving an address in an "offer message," but there is no indication as to where this address is provided in the offer message. The mode in which the base station chooses an address for itself by determining a range of permissible addresses does not appear to involve using an address that is in a destination field of a header of a datagram received by the base station. Using a manually installed address or an address of some other network component also do not appear to correspond to the recitations of Claim 1.

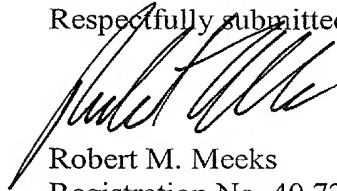
Therefore, contrary to the assertion of the Office Action, Wilkes does not teach or suggest "responsive to receipt of the datagram at the wireless base station, configuring the wireless base station to accept datagrams addressed to the assigned port number and/or internet address" as recited in Claim 1. As the other references do not provide such teachings, Applicants submit that Claim 1 is patentable over the cited combination of Aoki, Wilkes and APA. At least similar reasons support that patentability of independent Claims 8, 18 and 25. Applicants further submit that dependent Claims 3-7, 10-12, 19 and 26 are patentable at least by virtue of the patentability of the respective ones of independent Claims 1, 8, 18 and 25 from which they depend.

Conclusion

As all of the claims are now in condition for allowance for at least the reasons discussed above, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the claims and passing of the application to issue in due course. Applicants urge the Examiner to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at (919) 854-1400 to resolve any remaining formal issues.

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Filed: January 15, 2002
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Respectfully submitted,

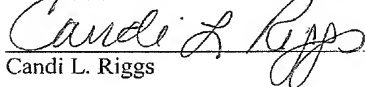


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